

Imagine Miami **VISION2025**

MEMORANDUM



TO: Steering Committee, Comprehensive Land Use Plan
FROM: Paul Culter, AICP, Edwards and Kelcey
DATE: September 24, 2004
RE: Minutes of SWOT Public Hearing 9/23/2004

The Public Meeting/Open House began at 7:00pm with an open house. Survey forms and SWOT Boards were available for the public to identify Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats in the Township.

Larry Fronk opened the presentation portion of the meeting at 7:40pm welcoming those in attendance and stating the importance of this process which is backed by the Trustees 100%. The Community has to be involved to be successful. The Township and Consultants are facilitators; the community will be creating the Plan.

Mr. Fronk stated that community input will be available through the following: A survey in the October 4th Newsletter, a special email box established for the Plan, multiple public hearings and the project website.

Della Rucker continued the presentation to describe the "nuts and bolts" of the planning process. Mrs. Rucker stated the importance of planning to have the ability to look long range into the future.

Mrs. Rucker described the timeline and schedule for the planning process as a 12 month structured process. Three public meetings will be established for public input: Tonight (SWOT), November/December (Visioning) and April/May to review components for the draft Plan.

Lou Ethridge stated that the community should think big, but be aware of monies needed to fund big ideas.

Jean Schmidt stated that goals are important, but be aware that Miami Township is a 33 square mile community with many different economic needs. Be real, be obtainable, be affordable.

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Mrs. Rucker described the handout provided to those in attendance and stated that all information and meeting materials would be available on the Township website. Notifications for public meetings will be in the newspaper, newsletter, and public access channel.

Kim Brady stated that the survey should be handed out to residents on Election Day to achieve a greater return if possible.

Mr. Fronk will need to add a deadline date to the survey that will go out in the Township Newsletter. Handing out the survey at Homeowners Association meetings may be another option.

Mrs. Rucker then opened the meeting up for feedback and initial thoughts.

Tom Clifton stated that the Park District is a real asset. However, the Township needs better access and walkability. Example provided was the condominium development behind the former Thriftway; it is isolated and does not connect the residential to retail.

Mrs. Schmidt stated that many sidewalks lead to nowhere. Force a fund that developers pay into to help provide for connections between developments.

Tom Siberslie stated that the Township faces the challenge of perception from rural to urban. The Township needs to know who is coming to the Township and who the clientele.

Most people don't realize that they live in the Township. Most believe that they live in Milford, Loveland or Goshen.

Mr. Brady stated that the Township and Committee need to consider the smaller areas that once made up the Township such as Gunea and Mt. Repose.

There is a perception that a Land Use Plan will take away property rights. There is a need to educate on that issue.

Denny Begue stated that there is a need to focus on existing commercial areas; to enhance and balance each. Work with what is there now before proposing new areas.

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Mr. Ethridge stated that Miami Township is in better shape than other Townships with respect to balanced and appropriate growth.

Trustee Mary Wolff stated that there is a definite need for a land use plan for the Township and the time to do that is now. We need to make the community the best it can be.

Eric Ferry gave a special thank you to Larry Fronk for his leadership in planning and zoning for the Township.

The meeting ended at 9:00pm.

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Attendees List

Larry Fronk, Miami Township
Della Rucker, AICP, Edwards and Kelcey
Paul Culter, AICP, Edwards and Kelcey
Christopher Mohr, Intern, Edwards and Kelcey
Denny Begue, Township Resident
Tom Clifton, Township Resident
Issac Anderson, Township Resident
Bob Reynolds, Township Resident
Tom Siberslei, Township Resident
Lou Ethridge, Township Resident
Kim Brady, Township Resident
John Vonasek, Township Resident
Kevin Malof, Township Resident
Jean Schmidt, Township Resident
Mary Makley Wolff, Township Trustee
Eric Ferry, Township Clerk
Chief James Whitworth, Township Fire Chief
Liz Vernon, Milford Community Press
Reid Forgrave, Cincinnati Enquirer